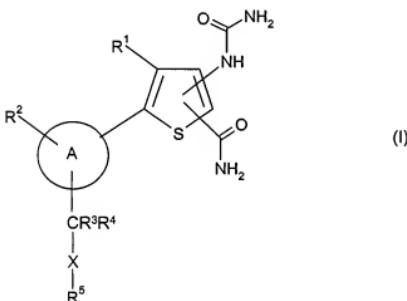


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I)



wherein

R¹ represents H or CH₃;

R² represents hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C1 to 2 alkyl, trifluoromethyl or C1 to 2 alkoxy;

R³ and R⁴ independently represent H or CH₃;

or the group CR³R⁴ together represents a C3 to 6 cycloalkyl ring;

A represents phenyl a six-membered aromatic ring optionally incorporating one or two nitrogen atoms; and the group $-\text{CR}^3\text{R}^4\text{-X-R}^5$ is bonded to ring A in the 4-position relative to the thiophene ring;

X represents NR^6 ;

R^5 represents H, C1 to 6 alkyl, C2 to 6 alkenyl or C3 to 6 cycloalkyl; said alkyl group optionally incorporating one heteroatom selected from O, S(O)_n or NR^7 ; said alkyl group being optionally further substituted by one or more groups selected independently from CN, OH, C1 to 4 alkoxy, F, a C5 to 10 monocyclic or bicyclic aromatic ring system optionally incorporating one or two heteroatoms independently selected from O, S and N; and said ring system being optionally further substituted by one or more substituents selected independently from halogen, C1 to 2 alkyl, C1 to 2 alkoxy or CF_3 ; or said alkyl being optionally further substituted by a C5 to 6 cycloalkyl ring that optionally incorporates a heteroatom selected from O, S(O)_m or NR^8 and/or a carbonyl group and is optionally further substituted by OH;

R^6 represents H or C1 to 6 alkyl; said alkyl group being optionally further substituted by CN, OH, C1 to 4 alkoxy or one or more fluoro atoms;

n and m independently represent an integer 0, 1 or 2;

R^7 and R^8 independently represent H or C1 to 2 alkyl;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

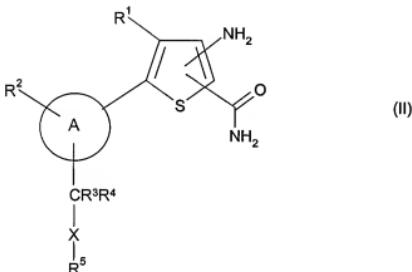
2. (Original) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 1, wherein R^1 represents H.

3. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 1, in which A represents optionally substituted phenyl.

4. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 1, in which R^3 and R^4 each represent H.

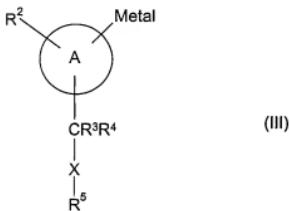
5. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I), according to Claim 1, which comprises:

(a) reaction of a compound of formula (II):

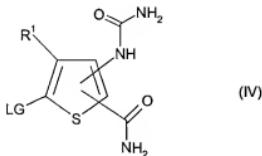


wherein A, R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵ and X are as defined in Claim 1 with an isocyanate; or

(b) reaction of a compound of formula (III)

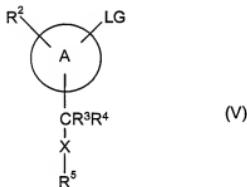


wherein A, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵ and X are as defined in Claim 1, with a compound of formula (IV)



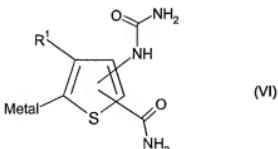
wherein R^1 is as defined in Claim 1 and LG represents a leaving group; or

(c) reaction of a compound of formula (V)



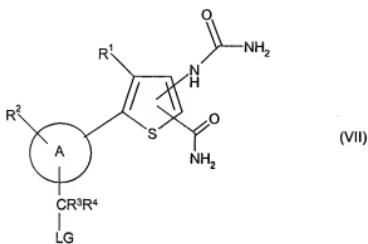
wherein A, R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 and X are as defined in Claim 1 and LG represents a leaving group,

with a compound of formula (VI)



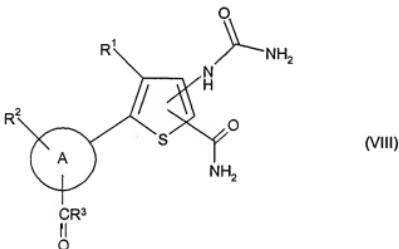
wherein R^1 is as defined in Claim 1; or

(d) reaction of a compound of formula (VII)



wherein A, R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are as defined in Claim 1, and LG represents a leaving group,

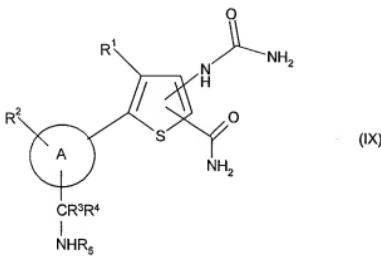
with an amine of formula R⁵R⁶NH, wherein R⁵ and R⁶ are as defined in Claim 1; or
(e) reaction of a compound of formula (VIII)



wherein A, R¹, R² and R³ are as defined in Claim 1,

with an amine of formula R⁵R⁶NH wherein R⁵ and R⁶ are as defined in Claim 1, under reductive amination conditions; or

(f) reaction of a compound of formula (IX)



wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵ and A are as defined in Claim 1,

with an aldehyde or ketone under reductive amination conditions;

and where necessary converting the resultant compound of formula (I), or another salt thereof, into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or converting the resultant compound of formula (I) into a further compound of formula (I); and where desired converting the resultant compound of formula (I) into an optical isomer thereof.

6. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in Claim 1 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

7. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition adapted for administration by inhalation or insufflation comprising a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in Claim 1 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

8. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition which comprises mixing a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed Claim 1 with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

9. - 10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of inflammatory disease selected from the group consisting of asthma, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, inflammatory bowel disease, multiple sclerosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, bone resorptive disease, osteoarthritis, and diabetes/glycemic control, comprising administering to a person suffering from or at risk of said disease a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in Claim 1..

12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the disease is rheumatoid arthritis.

13. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the disease is chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Previously Presented) A method of treating, or reducing the risk of, a disease or condition in which inhibition of IKK-2 activity is beneficial cancer which comprises administering to a person suffering from or at risk of said disease or condition a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as claimed in Claim 1.

16. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 2, in which A represents optionally substituted phenyl.

17. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 2, in which R³ and R⁴ each represent H.

18. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 3, in which R³ and R⁴ each represent H.

19. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 16, in which R³ and R⁴ each represent H.

20. (Cancelled).